

## Message Text

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60

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 OMB-01 SAM-01 /080 W

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R 171219Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1242

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAMAKO 1446

PARIS FOR MELONE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, ML, UV

SUBJECT: LOME MEDIATION COMMISSION VISITS BAMAKO

REF: OUAGADOUGOU 0910

1. TODAY'S HEADLINE ARTICLE IN THE GOVERNMENT DAILY, L'ESSOR, REPORTS THE 48-HOUR VISIT OF THE LOME MEDIATION COMMISSION CONSISTING OF THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF TOGO AND NIGER AND SENEGAL'S MINISTER OF JUSTICE. FOLLOWING DISCUSSIONS WITH PRESIDENT TRAORE AND MALI FOREIGN MINISTER SAMBA SISSOKO, TOGOLESE FOREIGN MINISTER AYI HUMLEDE, IS REPORTED TO HAVE MADE A DECLARATION TO THE PRESS INDICATING THAT THE COMMISSION MET WITH GOOD WILL ON BOTH SIDES TO FIND A SOLUTION TO THE CONFLICT. POINTING TO THE PRESENCE OF THE MEDIATION COMMISSION'S MILITARY SUB-COMMISSION IN MALI FOLLOWING A SIMILAR MISSION TO OUAGADOUGOU, THE TOGOLESE FOREIGN MINISTER CHAR-  
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ACTERIZED THE CURRENT ATMOSPHERE AS ONE OF DETENTE

QUOTE WHICH WILL CERTAINLY ALLOW FOR A SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM, UNQUOTE. HOWEVER HUMLEDE WAS CAUTIOUS ABOUT GIVING A TIME FRAME FOR THE RESOLUTION OF THE BORDER DISPUTE.

2. COMMENTING ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE MILITARY SUB-COMMISSION NOW IN MALI HUMLEDE IS REPORTED TO HAVE COMMENTED THAT THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THE MILITARY SUB-COMMISSION WILL BE EFFECTIVE SINCE MALIAN AUTHORITIES HAVE MADE THEIR TASK EASIER BY WITHDRAWING THEIR TROOPS TO A QUOTE REASONABLE POSITION UNQUOTE.

3. HUMLEDE DECLINED TO COMMENT ON THE IMPACT ON THE BORDER DISPUTE OF THE STATEMENTS MADE BY THE GOVERNMENTS OF MALI AND UPPER VOLTA FOLLOWING THE RECENT CEAO MEETING IN NIAMEY. (I.E. MALI REJOICING IN THE FINAL CEAO COMMUNIQUE AS A VINDICATION OF THEIR CHARGES AND UPPER VOLTA TAKING EXCEPTION TO PORTIONS OF THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE WHICH SEEMED TO SUPPORT MALI'S EARLIER CLAIMS THAT MALIAN EMPLOYEES AT CEAO HEADQUARTERS WERE BEING HARASSED.) COMMENT: IN LIGHT OF PRESIDENT TRAORE'S HEATED REMARKS IN AN AFP INTERVIEW (REPORTED IN BAMAKO'S 1429) EMBASSY DOES NOT SHARE HUMLEDE'S OPTIMISM ABOUT PROSPECTS FOR SOLUTION OF THE BORDER DISPUTE. HUMLEDE'S REMARKS ARE FIRST OFFICIAL CONFIRMATION THAT MALIAN TROOPS HAVE PULLED BACK FROM DISPUTED AREA. DOES AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU HAVE ANY CONFIRMATION THIS PULLBACK?  
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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION, BOUNDARY CLAIMS, BORDER INCIDENTS  
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